

Benchmarks

These are the articles published in the April/May 1996 issue.

These pages are meant for use as an archive for the University of North Texas publication *Benchmarks*. Many of these files are old and contain information and links to sites that no longer function. This is because, over time, many sites shutdown or change addresses thus voiding all links to them. Please keep in mind that all links may not work as they should.

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Cyberspace, the Final (Legal) Frontier?

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks* Editor (lynch@unt.edu)



The Symbol of the Resistance to the CDA

The legal battles of the 21st Century may well be waged in and over that nebulous region we have come to know as cyberspace. If you've been paying attention to the news even a little bit during the past year you will have noticed that "obscenity on the Internet" has become a very hot topic (pun intended). All the talk started with the publication of [TIME](#) Magazine's cover story on "Cyberporn" last July.¹ The article gave credence to a flawed study about on-line pornography by a fellow named Marty Rimm.² This attention couldn't have come at a worse time for the Internet. Just as the "Information Superhighway" was becoming accessible to ordinary Americans (as opposed to the scientists and educators who had been the predominant users before), political forces rose up to regulate it.

The Communications Decency Amendment

What politician wouldn't love to claim that they had made cyberspace safe for the children of America? Apparently not many, because despite severe questions as to its constitutionality, Title V of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 - commonly known as the "Communications Decency Amendment" or CDA - was passed by Congress on February 1, 1996 and signed into law by President Clinton on February 8, 1996. On that same day, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC), Planned Parenthood and several other plaintiffs sought to overturn the CDA on the grounds that it is a violation of the First Amendment rights of all Internet users. On February 15, 1996, a Federal Judge found it unconstitutional and issued a restraining order against enforcement of some CDA provisions.³ Since then the CDA has been tied up in court, also challenged by such groups as the Citizens Internet Empowerment Coalition (CIEC), the American Library Association, America Online, CompuServe, Prodigy, Microsoft, NETCOM On-Line Communications Services Inc., The Commercial Internet eXchange, The Newspaper Association of America, *Wired* Magazine, *Hotwired*, and Families Against Internet Censorship. Hearings wound up on May 10, 1996 and a decision may have been reached by the time this issue of *Benchmarks* is published. Observers believed that the CDA would not be upheld, but of course no one knows for sure or whether or not the government would appeal if it weren't upheld.

Other Looming Cyberspace Battles

Battles like that about the CDA and those that follow are sure to cause consternation for lots of people in the months and years to come. In many cases they are representative of the conflicts that exist at the core of American society - business interests vs. citizens interests, government regulation vs. self-regulation, and interpretation of the U.S. Constitution. If nothing else, they should provide for some interesting discussions and open up whole new areas of practice for lawyers.

- **Copyright issues:** This is a battle that has been raging for some time now. Do the same rules of copyright hold on-line as they do in the print and audio world? What about electronic libraries or personal electronic mail?

The current threat to Internet users is HR2441, the "National Information Infrastructure Act of

1995." If passed in it's current form it would:

- make it a copyright violation to simply browse the Net without a license from copyright owners.
- subject computer system operators - such as on-line services and networks at schools and libraries - to potentially crippling liability for the copyright violations of their users.
- cripple "distance education" efforts especially vital to rural communities and the disabled.
- make it illegal to manufacture, import or distribute devices and software (including computers and VCRs) needed by industry, schools and libraries to make "fair use" of encrypted information by overruling long-standing Supreme Court precedent.⁴
- **Long Distance Voice Communication:** On March 4, 1966, America's Carriers Telecommunication Association (ACTA) filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to "stop companies from selling software and hardware products that enable use of the Internet to voice long distance services."⁵ This action either threatens the fledgling Internet Telephony industry or protects the nations telecommunications carriers, depending on your point of view.
- **Privacy issues:** All sorts of privacy issues are coming up due to the ease of coding, storing and retrieving data on individuals. Data are available on a variety of topics including financial, medical, and other personal information. Other privacy issues include employers spying electronically on their employees and the ability of individuals to encrypt their on-line messages. The Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) has all sorts of information about privacy issues on its Web pages (<http://www.epic.org/>).
- **The status of the Internet:** *EFFector Online* (March 6, 1996, Vol. 9 No. 3), a publication of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, reported that U.S. Customs decided that the Internet is not a place and fined people accordingly. ACD, a "virtual" software company with engineers in both California and Hungary but no real physical business infrastructure was fined \$85 when a shipment of software was sent from Hungary to the US with "Country of Origin" marked as "Internet" on the customs forms. This was a kind of silly case, since the shippers should have put Hungary as the country of origin, but it points out some problems that will surely crop up as more and more companies exist only in cyberspace.

References

- American Civil Liberties Web pages (<http://www.aclu.org/>).
- Center for Democracy and Technology Web pages (<http://www.cdt.org/>).
- Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility Web pages (<http://www.cpsr.org/dox/home.html>)
- Digital Future Coalition alert (<http://www.ari.net/dfc/alert.html>).
- Electronic Frontier Foundation Web pages (<http://www.eff.org/>).
- Electronic Privacy Information Center Web pages (<http://www.epic.org/>).
- The Ethical Spectacle Web pages (<http://www.spectacle.org>).

1 TIME, July 3, 1995 (Vol. 146, No.1)

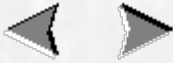
2 Rimm's study has been largely discredited. A variety of references are available on this topic, but perhaps the best starting point is Declan McCullagh's web page "Marty Rimm's Moral Mazes" (<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/afs/cs.cmu.edu/Web/People/declan/rimm/rimm.html>).

3 One such provision was that the word "abortion" could not appear in any text that was accessible via the Internet. Also banned were the famous "seven dirty words" (<http://www.spectacle.org/freespch/musm/seven.html>).

4From <http://www.ari.net/dfc/alert.html>. For more information about the bill see <http://www.ari.net/dfc/info/Copyright.html>

5 See <http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/CommonCarrier/PublicNotices/da960414.txt> and <http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Miscellaneous/Factsheets/comments.hlp>

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Electronic Freedom March

If any of the items in the above article cause your blood pressure to rise, you might want to participate in the "Electronic Freedom March on Washington" scheduled for September 29. The EFF page (<http://www.eff.org/>) has more information on this.

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State Bills to Regulate On-line Speech

Published by American Civil Liberties Union National Headquarters (1/96 Update - <http://www.aclu.org/>). For information on how to fight on-line censorship legislation in your state, contact Ann Beeson, ACLU, beeson@aclu.org, (212) 944-9800 x788.

In reading about these laws one must remember that although most people are against "obscenity," "hate speech," etc., they are hard pressed to provide a working definition of these that would stand up in a court of law. This has been somewhat manageable when using "community standards," but the Internet is a special case. What is the community? Should people all over the world be held to standards set in Saudi Arabia, China, France, Tennessee? These are the questions behind the battles over Internet censorship that are being fought here and abroad. - Ed.

If you think Congress is full of Luddites, just wait until you read what your state legislators have been up to . . .

Bills That Became Law in 1995:

- **Connecticut:** House Bill 6883 - Creates criminal liability for sending an online message "with intent to harass, annoy or alarm another person." 6/95 Signed into law.
- **Georgia:** House Bill 76 - Prohibits online transmission of fighting words, obscene or vulgar speech to minors, and information related to terrorist acts and certain dangerous weapons. 3/95 Signed into law.
- **Illinois:** Senate Bill 838 (began as SB 747) - Prohibits sexual solicitation of a minor by computer. 7/95 Signed into law.
- **Kansas:** House Bill 2223 - Expands child pornography statute to include computer generated images. 5/95 Signed into law.
- **Maryland:** Senate Bill 21 - Expands law that prohibits distribution of obscene material to minors to include online transmission. 4/95 Signed into law.
- **Montana:** House Bill 0161 - Expands child pornography statute to prohibit transmission by computer and possession of computer-generated child pornographic images. 3/95 Signed into law.
- **New Jersey:** Assembly Bill 38 - Expands child pornography statute to outlaw "computer programs" that depict child pornography.
- **Oklahoma:** House Bill 1048 - Prohibits transmission of obscenity, defined as harmful to minors, through online networks. 4/95 Signed into law.
- **Virginia:** Senate Bill 1067 - Expands harmful to minors statute to criminalize electronic transmissions of child pornography. 5/95 Signed into law.

Bills Considered or Still Pending:

- **Alabama:** House Bill 100 - Prohibits electronic transmission of obscene materials to minors.
- **California:** Assembly Bill 295 - Expands obscenity and child pornography statutes to prohibit transmission of images by computer.
- **Florida:** Senate Bill 238 - Pornography Victims' Compensation Act. Creates private cause of action for victims of crimes related to pornography, including Florida's computer pornography statute.
- **Maryland:** Senate Bill 22 - Prohibits transmission of child pornography by computer and sexual solicitation of a minor by computer.
- **Massachusetts:** House Bill 1804 - Adds "inducement by computer" to the law prohibiting the luring of a minor for purposes of pornography.



- **New York:** Senate Bill 210C - Prohibits the online dissemination of indecent materials to minors. 1/96 Approved by both houses, but not yet signed into law.
- **Oregon:** House Bill 2310 - Creates crime of electronically furnishing obscene material to minors. 1/95 House Committee on Judiciary. Reported unfavorably.
- **Pennsylvania:** House Bill 1727 - Makes it a crime to use a computer network to transmit information describing the production of explosives.
- **Pennsylvania:** House Bill 841 - Prohibits pornographic communications by computer to minors.
- **Washington:** Senate Bill 5466 - Prohibits electronic transmission of material deemed "harmful to minors." 5/95 Governor vetoed the bill.



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The Black Thursday Machine

For a taste of on-line censorship, Canadian style, visit the *Black Thursday Machine* Web page (<http://www.hyperactive.net/censored>). According to an Electronic Frontier Canada (EFC) press release dated February 27, 1996, "The 'Black Thursday Machine' invites Internet surfers who visit the site to type in the address of their favourite Web page, to see what it might look like if a Canadian version of the new and controversial American 'Communications Decency Act' were put into effect.

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Crime on the Internet

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks* Editor (lynch@unt.edu)

Since cyberspace is a community of sorts - composed of networked computer users around the world - it is not surprising that many of the elements in the real world are present in the virtual one. Unfortunately, crime is one of those elements.

According to an article distributed by Knight-Ridder/Tribune Business News May 6, 1996, "More than 40 percent of the 428 corporate, university and government sites that responded to [a recent] FBI survey reported at least one unauthorized use of their computers within the last 12 months, with some institutions reporting as many as 1,000 attacks in the period."

The article goes on to state that in the past the most serious computer crimes have been committed by disgruntled employees against their employers. These days, however, there seem to be increasing incidences of electronic espionage¹.

Of course, where there is crime there are crime fighters. *The Nation* (<http://www.thenation.com/>) had an article in it's March 4, 1996 edition entitled "Pentagon Trolls the Net" by David Corn that talked about "the intelligence value of the Internet for the Defense Department." From "fringe group" monitoring to "information warfare," this article will give one pause as to where "crime" ends and "law enforcement" begins. As the say on the net, *caveat computor*.

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1Jones Telecommunications and Multi-media Encyclopedia (<http://www.digitalcentury.com/encyclo/update/crime.html>) has all kinds of information about computer crime and links to other sources of information.

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Computing and the Law

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks* Editor (lynch@unt.edu)

*This article appeared in the March/April 1995 issue of *Benchmarks* ([Vol. 16, No.2](#)). It has been slightly edited for this issue.*

When I first wrote about this topic in the summer of 1993, I noted that "computing for the masses is a relatively recent phenomenon."¹ In fact, "the original IBM PC was only introduced in 1981, which was the same year that BITNET became operational. ARPANET (parent of the Internet) started in 1969, but it wasn't used by the general public until after 1983, when it split into two networks, ARPANET and MILNET." One should not be surprised, then, that the laws relating to the use of computers and computer networks are still evolving.

Laws dealing with computers and their uses are often confusing, conflicting, and/or not very well thought out (see previous article of this issue for examples). The purpose of this issue of *Benchmarks*, therefore, is the same as it was when we focused on "Computing and the Law" in 1993 and again in 1995 - to make you aware that there *are* legal issues involved with computer usage.

University Policy

The *University Policy Manual, Volume II Administrative and Fiscal* has a section on computers that contains various policy statements about computer usage on campus. According to the "Computer Resources Security Policy" statement (August 23, 1991, pg. 1 of 7):

All use of computer resources is subject to federal and state regulations and laws, including, but not limited to: The Texas Computer Crimes Statute (Section 1, Title 7, Chapter 33 of the Texas Penal Code); Federal Copyright Law, Title 17, Section 117; and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

"Computing resources" are defined as "any and all computerized institutional data, computer hardware assets, and computer software assets owned or licensed by the university."²

It's a Privilege

The University defines access to computer resources as a privilege. The "Computer Resources Security Policy," *University Policy Manual, Volume II Administrative and Fiscal* (August 23, 1991, page 3 of 7), states that:

User's of university computer resources must not abuse or allow others to abuse their access to university computer resources.

Access to the university computer resource of any computer installation must be approved by the management of that computer installation. All individuals authorized to use university computer resources are responsible for all usage of their logon access and should keep their passwords confidential to protect university computer resources.

Users may not access University computer resources without appropriate authorization and then only for purposes for which their access is authorized.

Any attempt to access or to assist in the access of university computer resources via an unauthorized means is a violation of this policy and may subject the perpetrator(s) to sanctions hereunder.

Furthermore, this same document lists the following responsibilities of individual employees and/or

students:

- a. All individuals, whether faculty, staff employees or students, may be required to sign a confidentiality agreement upon receiving the privilege of using university computer resources.
- b. All individuals must comply with university computer resource policies and standards.
- c. All individuals authorized to use university computer resources are responsible for all usage of their logon access and should keep their passwords confidential to protect university computer resources.
- d. All individuals who use wide-area network services (such as BITNET or the Internet) provided via university computer resources shall abide by the policies of those networks.
- e. All individuals shall not attempt to access university computer resources for which they have no authorization.

Sanctions

The following sanctions are in place, should one violate University computer resource policies ("Computer Resources Security Policy," *University Policy Manual, Volume II Administrative and Fiscal*, August 23, 1991, page 6 of 7).

- 6.1 Penalties for violation of this policy range from loss of computer resource usage privileges to dismissal from the university, prosecution, and/or civil action. Each case will be determined separately on its merits. Referrals for legal action will be made through the Office of the General Counsel.
- 6.2 If the offender is a faculty member, his or her supervisor (usually the department chair) shall initially recommend to the dean and thereafter to the Provost the appropriate sanction. When termination is recommended, the faculty member may appeal to the University Review Committee or to the University Tenure Committee, whichever is appropriate per the University of North Texas *Faculty Handbook*.
- 6.3 If the offender is a staff member, the procedures to be followed are those specified in the "Discipline and Discharge Policy" of the University of North Texas *Personnel Policy Manual*.
- 6.4 If the offender is a student, the procedures to be followed are those specified in the "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline" as printed in the University of North Texas Student Guidebook. If the student in violation of this policy is also an employee of the university, sanctions may include termination of employment.

Federal and State Computer Crime Laws

The laws listed on the following pages are currently being used to decide whether a computer crime has been committed either at the federal level or in the state of Texas. People can also be charged with criminal activity by violating various other Federal statutes with regard to copyright infringement, wire fraud, patent infringement and a host of other related laws (this is where things get messy).

Federal Law

UNITED STATES CODE SERVICE

THIS SECTION IS CURRENT THROUGH 102 P.L. 82, APPROVED 08/06/91 ***

TITLE 18 - CRIMES AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

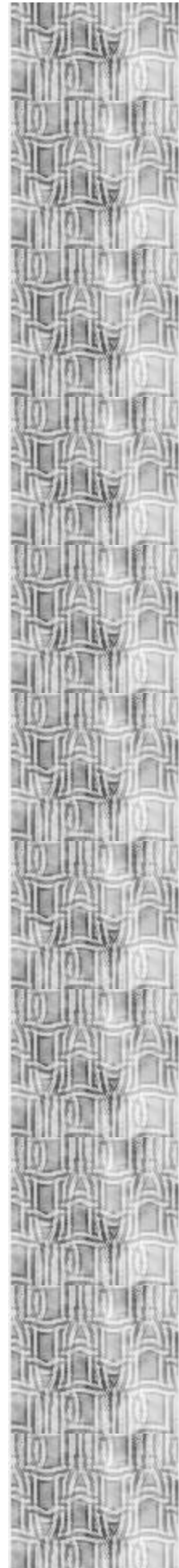
PART I. CRIMES

CHAPTER 47. FRAUD AND FALSE STATEMENTS

18 USCS @ 1030 (1991)

@1030. Fraud related activity in connection with computers

- (a) Whoever-
 1. knowingly accesses a computer without authorization or exceeds authorized access, and by means of such conduct obtains information that has been determined by the United States Government pursuant to an Executive order or statute to require protection against unauthorized disclosure for reasons of national defense or foreign relations, or any restricted data, as defined in paragraph y[(y)][.] of section 11 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 [42 USCS @ 2014(y)], with the intent or reason to believe that such information so obtained is to be used to the injury of the United States, or to the advantage of any foreign nation;
 2. intentionally accesses a computer without authorization or exceeds authorized access, and thereby obtains information contained in a financial record of a financial institution, or of a card issuer as defined in section 1602(n) of title 15, or contained in a file of a consumer reporting agency on a consumer, as such terms are defined in the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.);
 3. intentionally, without authorization to access any computer of a department or agency of the United States, accesses such a computer of that department or agency that is exclusively for the use of the Government of the United States or, in the case of a computer not exclusively for such use, is used by or for the Government of the United States and such conduct affects the use of the Government's operation of such computer;
 4. knowingly and with intent to defraud, accesses a Federal interest computer without authorization, or exceeds authorized access, and by means of such conduct furthers the intended fraud and obtains anything of value, unless the object of the fraud and the thing obtained consists only of the use of the computer;
 5. intentionally accesses a Federal interest computer without authorization, and by means of one or more instances of such conduct alters, damages, or destroys information in any such Federal interest computer, or prevents authorized use of any such computer or information, and thereby-
 - (A) causes loss to one or more others of a value aggregating \$ 1,000 or more during any one year period; or
 - B) modifies or impairs, or potentially modifies or impairs, the medical examination, medical diagnosis, medical treatment, or medical care of one or more individuals; or
 6. knowingly and with intent to defraud traffics (as defined in section 1029) in any password or similar information through which a computer may be accessed without authorization, if-
 - (A) such trafficking affects interstate or foreign commerce; or
 - (B) such computer is used by or for the Government of the United States; shall be punished as provided in subsection (c) of this section.
- (b) Whoever attempts to commit an offense under subsection (a) of this section shall be punished as provided in subsection (c) of this section.
- (c) The punishment for an offense under subsection (a) or (b) of this section is-
 1. (A) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both, in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(1) of this section which does not occur after a conviction for another offense under such subsection, or an attempt to commit an offense punishable under this subparagraph; and
 - (B) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than twenty years, or both, in the



case of an offense under subsection (a)(1) of this section which occurs after a conviction for another offense under such subsection; or an attempt to commit an offense punishable under this subparagraph; and

2. (A) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(2), (a)(3) or (a)(6) of this section which does not occur after a conviction for another offense under such subsection, or an attempt to commit an offense punishable under this subparagraph; and

(B) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both, in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(2), (a)(3) or (a)(6) of this section which occurs after a conviction for another offense under such subsection, or an attempt to commit an offense punishable under this subparagraph; and

3. (A) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both, in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(4) or (a)(5) of this section which does not occur after a conviction for another offense under such subsection, or an attempt to commit an offense punishable under this subparagraph; and

(B) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both, in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(4) or (a)(5) of this section which occurs after a conviction for another offense under such subsection, or an attempt to commit an offense punishable under this subparagraph.

- (d) The United States Secret Service shall, in addition to any other agency having such authority, have the authority to investigate offenses under this section. Such authority of the United States Secret Service shall be exercised in accordance with an agreement which shall be entered into by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General.
- (e) As used in this section-
 1. the term "computer" means an electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing device performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, and includes any data storage facility or communications facility directly related to or operating in conjunction with such device, but such term does not include an automated typewriter or typesetter, a portable hand held calculator, or other similar device;
 2. the term "Federal interest computer" means a computer -
 - (A) exclusively for the use of a financial institution or the United States Government, or, in the case of a computer not exclusively for such use, used by or for a financial institution or the United States Government and the conduct constituting the offense affects the use of the financial institution's operation or the Government's operation of such computer; or
 - (B) which is one of two or more computers used in committing the offense, not all of which are located in the same State;
 3. the term "State" includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any other commonwealth, possession or territory of the United States;
 4. the term "financial institution" means-
 - (A) an institution, with deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;
 - (B) the Federal Reserve or a member of the Federal Reserve including any Federal Reserve Bank;
 - (C) a credit union with accounts insured by the National Credit Union Administration;
 - (D) a member of the Federal home loan bank system and any home loan bank;
 - (E) any institution of the Farm Credit System under the Farm Credit Act of 1971;
 - (F) a broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission

- pursuant to section 15 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934;
 - (G) the Securities Investor Protection Corporation;
 - (H) a branch or agency of a foreign bank (as such terms are defined in paragraphs (1) and (3) of section 1(b) of the International Banking Act of 1978 [12 USCS @ 3101(1), (3)]); and
 - (I) an organization operating under section 25 or section 25(a) of the Federal Reserve Act.
- 5. the term "financial record" means information derived from any record held by a financial institution pertaining to a customer's relationship with the financial institution;
- 6. the term "exceeds authorized access" means to access a computer with authorization and to use such access to obtain or alter information in the computer that the accesser is not entitled so to obtain or alter; and
- 7. the term "department of the United States" means the legislative or judicial branch of the Government or one of the executive department enumerated in section 101 of title 5.
- (f) This section does not prohibit any lawfully authorized investigative, protective, or intelligence activity of a law enforcement agency of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision of a State, or of an intelligence agency of the United States.

HISTORY: (Added Oct. 12, 1984, P.L. 98-473, Title II, Ch XXI, @ 2102(a), 98 Stat. 2190; Oct. 16, 1986, P.L. 99-474, @ 2, 100 Stat. 1213; Nov. 18, 1988, P.L. 100-690, Title VII, Subtitle B, @ 7065, 102 Stat. 4404; As amended Aug. 9, 1989, P.L. 101-73, Title IX, Subtitle F, @ 962(a)(5), 103 Stat. 502; Nov. 29, 1990, P.L. 101-647, Title XII, @ 1205(e), Title XXV, Subtitle I, @ 2597(j), Title XXXV, @ 3533, 104 Stat. 4831, 4910, 4925.)

The following amendment, passed on September 13, 1994 as part of the Violent Crime Control Act (PL103-322), changed portions of Title 18 USC sec 1030 text (cited on the previous two pages).

TITLE XXIX - COMPUTER CRIME

SEC. 290001. COMPUTER ABUSE AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1994.

- (a) Short Title. - This subtitle may be cited as the "Computer Abuse Amendments Act of 1994".
- (b) Prohibition. - Section 1030(a)(5) of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
 - "(5)(A) through means of a computer used in interstate commerce or communications, knowingly causes the transmission of a program, information, code, or command to a computer or computer system if -
 - "(i) the person causing the transmission intends that such transmission will -
 - "(I) damage, or cause damage to, a computer, computer system, network, information, data, or program; or
 - "(II) withhold or deny, or cause the withholding or denial, of the use of a computer, computer services, system or network, information, data or program; and
 - "(ii) the transmission of the harmful component of the program, information, code, or command -
 - "(I) occurred without the authorization of the persons or entities who own or are responsible for the computer system receiving the program, information, code, or command; and
 - "(II)(aa) causes loss or damage to one or more other persons of value aggregating \$1,000 or more during any 1-year period; or
 - "(bb) modifies or impairs, or potentially modifies or impairs, the medical examination, medical diagnosis, medical treatment, or medical care of one or more individuals; or
 - "(B) through means of a computer used in interstate commerce or communication, knowingly causes the transmission of a program, information, code, or command to a computer or computer system -
 - "(i) with reckless disregard of a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the transmission



will -

- "(I) damage, or cause damage to, a computer, computer system, network, information, data or program; or "
- (II) withhold or deny or cause the withholding or denial of the use of a computer, computer services, system, network, information, data or program; and
- "(ii) if the transmission of the harmful component of the program, information, code, or command -
 - "(I) occurred without the authorization of the persons or entities who own or are responsible for the computer system receiving the program, information, code, or command; and
 - "(II)(aa) causes loss or damage to one or more other persons of a value aggregating \$1,000 or more during any 1-year period; or
 - "(bb) modifies or impairs, or potentially modifies or impairs, the medical examination, medical diagnosis, medical treatment, or medical care of one or more individuals;"
- (c) Penalty. - Section 1030(c) of title 18, United States Code is amended-
 1. in paragraph (2)(B) by striking "and" after the semicolon;
 2. in paragraph (3)(A) by inserting "(A)" after "(a)(5)";
 3. in paragraph (3)(B) by striking the period at the end thereof and inserting "; and"; and (4) by adding the following new paragraph:

"(4) a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both, in the case of an offense under subsection (a)(5)(B)."
- (d) Civil Action. - Section 1030 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

"(g) Any person who suffers damage or loss by reason of a violation of the section, other than a violation of subsection (a)(5)(B), may maintain a civil action against the violator to obtain compensatory damages and injunctive relief or other equitable relief. Damages for violations of any subsection other than subsection (a)(5)(A)(ii)(II)(bb) or (a)(5)(B)(ii)(II)(bb) are limited to economic damages. No action may be brought under this subsection unless such action is begun within 2 years of the date of the act complained of or the date of the discovery of the damage."
- (e) Reporting Requirements. - Section 1030 of title 18 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(h) The Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury shall report to the Congress annually, during the first 3 years following the date of the enactment of this subsection, concerning investigations and prosecutions under section 1030(a)(5) of title 18, United States Code."
- (f) Prohibition. - Section 1030(a)(3) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting "adversely" before "affects the use of the Government's operation of such computer".

State Law

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS SECTION 1, Title 7,
Penal Code, is amended by adding Chapter 33 to read as follows: CHAPTER 33. COMPUTER CRIMES
Section 33.01. DEFINITIONS

In this chapter:

1. 'Communications common carrier' means a person who owns or operates a telephone system in this

- 
- state that includes equipment or facilities for the conveyance, transmission, or reception of communications and who receives compensation from persons who use that system.
2. 'Computer' means an electronic device that performs logical, arithmetic, or memory functions by the manipulations of electronic or magnetic impulses and includes all input, output, processing, storage, or communication facilities that are connected or related to the device. 'Computer' includes a network of two or more computers that are interconnected to function or communicate together.
 3. 'Computer program' means an ordered set of data representing coded instructions or statements that when executed by a computer cause the computer to process data or perform specific functions.
 4. 'Computer security system' means the design, procedures, or other measures that the person responsible for the operation and use of a computer employs to restrict the use of the computer to particular persons or uses or that the owner or licensee of data stored or maintained by a computer in which the owner or licensee is entitled to store or maintain the data employs to restrict access to the data.
 5. 'Data' means a representation of information, knowledge, facts, concepts, or instructions that is being prepared or has been prepared in a formalized manner and is intended to be stored or processed, is being stored or processed, or has been stored or processed, in a computer. Data may be embodied in any form, including but not limited to computer printouts, magnetic storage media, and punchcards, or may be stored internally in the memory of the computer.
 6. 'Electric utility' has the meaning assigned by Subsection (c), Section 3, Public Utility Regulatory Act (article 1446c, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

Section 33.02.

BREACH OF COMPUTER SECURITY

- (a) A person commits an offense if the person:
 1. uses a computer without the effective consent of the owner of the computer or a person authorized to license access to the computer and the actor knows that there exists a computer security system intended to prevent him from making that use of the computer; or
 2. gains access to data stored or maintained by a computer without the effective consent of the owner or licensee of the data and the actor knows that there exists a computer security system intended to prevent him from gaining access to that data.
- (b) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly gives a password, identifying code, personal identification number, or other confidential information about a computer security system to another person without the effective consent of the person employing the computer security system to restrict the use of a computer or to restrict access to data stored or maintained by a computer.
- (c) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

Section 33.03. HARMFUL ACCESS

- (a) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly:
 1. causes a computer to malfunction or interrupts the operation of a computer without the effective consent of the owner of the computer or a person authorized to license access to the computer; or
 2. alters, damages, or destroys data or a computer program stored, maintained, or produced by a computer, without the effective consent of the owner or licensee of the data or computer program.
- (b) An offense under this section is:
 1. a Class B misdemeanor if the conduct did not cause any loss or damage or if the value of the loss or damage caused by the conduct is less than \$200;
 2. a Class A misdemeanor if the value of the loss or damage caused by the conduct is \$200 or more but less than \$2,500; or
 3. a felony of the third degree if the value of the loss or damage caused by the conduct is \$2,500



or more.

Section 33.04. DEFENSES.

It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under Sections 33.02 and 33.02 of this code that the actor was an officer, employee, or agent of a communications common carrier or electric utility and committed the proscribed act or acts in the course of employment while engaged in an activity that is a necessary incident to the rendition of service or to the protection of the rights or property of the communications common carrier or electric utility.

Section 33.05 ASSISTANCE BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The attorney general, if requested to do so by a prosecuting attorney, may assist the prosecuting attorney in the investigation or prosecution of an offense under this chapter or of any other offense involving the use of a computer.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1985.

SECTION 3. The importance if this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three separate days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

1"Computing and the Law,"*Benchmarks* Volume 14, No. 4, Summer 1993, page 1.

2"Computer Resources Security Policy" statement (August 23, 1991, pg. 2 of 7) in the *University Policy Manual, Volume II Administrative and Fiscal*.

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Zimmerman Investigation Closed

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks* Editor (lynch@unt.edu)

The November/December 1995 issue of *Benchmarks* ([Vol. 16, No. 6](#)) contained an article about personal privacy entitled "Shhh! Honey, did you hear something?" The article mentioned that Phil Zimmerman, the fellow who authored an encryption program known as Pretty Good Privacy or PGP, was being investigated for violating arms export laws (encryption has been considered a government function) by posting PGP code on USENET in 1991. In January, 1996 the federal government dropped all charges against Zimmerman. This is considered a major victory by privacy activists.

You can get copies of PGP and PGPFone - for secure telephone communications over networks - from the EPIC web site at <http://www.epic.org/privacy/tools.htm>

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UNT Drafting Appropriate Use Policy

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks Editor* (lynch@unt.edu)

Work is currently underway by the Standards and Cooperation (S&C) Group of the Information Resources Council (IRC) on an "Appropriate Use Policy" for UNT information resources. A copy of the policy draft is available for viewing at: <http://www-lan.unt.edu/cc1/home/pierce/www/policy/approuse.htm>. If you would like to participate in a discussion with regard to the policy you can join an ongoing, Web-based, discussion at http://www-lan.unt.edu/UNT-Forum/public/AU_Policy/. Following is the current Table of Contents of the document.

- Introduction
 - Purpose
 - Scope
- Freedom of Expression
- Privacy
 - Privacy Defined
 - Privacy Rights and Limitations
 - General Warning to Users About Privacy
 - Privacy vs. Anonymity
- Intellectual Property
- Authorized Use
 - Authorization Restrictions
 - Who May Be Authorized
 - Personal Use
- Responsible Use
 - General Responsibilities
 - Special Responsibilities
- Illegal Acts and Violations of University Policy
 - Obscene Materials
 - Sexual Harassment
 - Child Pornography
 - Theft of Software or Services
 - Unauthorized Access and Security
- Sanctions
- Further Information
 - Other Related Policies
 - References

You can participate in other Web-based discussion groups concerning the UNT Strategic Plan by accessing the *Faculty* area of UNT's Web site (<http://www.unt.edu/faculty.html>).

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Software Piracy

*This is a heavily edited version of an article that appeared in the University of British Columbia University Computing Services' newsletter Campus Computing (January 1992, Vol. 7, No. 1). The original authors are Wendy Alexander (wendy_alexander@mtsa.ubc.ca), Teresa Tenisci (teresa_tenisci@mtsa.ubc.ca) University Computing Services, the University of British Columbia. A previous version of this article appeared in the March/April 1995 (Vol. 16, No. 2) and the February 1992 (Vol. 13, No. 2) issue of **Benchmarks**.*

The University of Oregon Continuation Center settled a copyright lawsuit with the Software Publishers Association to pay \$130,000 as well as organize and host a national conference on copyright law and software use. This was the first software copyright suit brought against a higher education institution. The federal suit was filed against the school in February 1990 on behalf of several software vendors, including Lotus Development Corp., Microsoft Corp. and WordPerfect Corp. The suit alleged that the center employees made unauthorized copies of the software companies' program and training manuals.

- Ledger, Association of College and University Auditors, Nov. 1991

When we speak of pirates in today's world, two different visions come to mind. The first is of a latter-day swashbuckling ruffian who captured cargo ships and stole the riches and wealth aboard for himself. The second is of a person who copies software from a source to their own PC, without purchasing it from a legal vendor. We may see both as underdogs, fighting the injustice of "the system," while remaining worthy at heart, and therefore somehow admirable. No wonder software piracy is not viewed as a crime by most people.

In fact, software piracy is a crime. It is theft. When a software package is purchased from a legal vendor, a contract exists between the vendor and the purchaser. This contract, called a license, can be found in various places: in the instruction manuals, other documentation, or on the disk itself. Most people believe that once they have purchased software, they own it. This is not quite true. In fact, what has been purchased is the license which allows the purchaser to use the product. The software company still owns the software. This lack of understanding often leads to breaches of the contract through software piracy, and in many cases the culprits are not even aware of the illegalities of their actions. Sometimes, just breaking the seal of a disk package constitutes a legal and binding acceptance of the license's conditions.

Don't make UNT the target of the next search warrant. The embarrassment that would be caused by a lawsuit would be damaging to the reputation of the University, and the fines can be very expensive. Don't be fooled into thinking that only the University will be liable and have to pay. Depending on policies in place within your department, you too, might be liable.

Some Common Scenarios

What follows are some common situations that will test your knowledge of what is legal and what is not when it comes to software duplication.

- **Situation #1:** A software program has been purchased by an office for one of its employees. Other employees in the same office hear of the program and discover that it would be a great help to them in their work. Can legal copies be made?

Answer: No, legal copies cannot be made. Many people make this mistake, believing that as long as the program is for company business, the use of it within the workplace is legal. Most license agreements require that each machine or workstation that uses the program must have a *purchased* copy of that program.

- **Situation #2:** A computer which "belonged" to the employee you are replacing is now yours. All sorts of wonderful programs are on it and you assume they are legal copies. If you are audited and are found to have illegal software on your machine, are you responsible?

Answer: You may be responsible, depending on policies within your department. Just because somebody else put the software on the machine doesn't mean you are blameless. Essentially, you turned a blind eye and benefited from the existence of the software on the machine. Ways to determine whether or not your software is legal are: check to see if official documentation exists for your machine; check to see if there are any official diskettes for the program; check for official templates on your computer keyboard. If none of these three exists, be prepared to find out that the software is illegal. You may want to speak with the person in your department who keeps track of purchasing software for more information on the programs installed on your machine.

- **Situation #3:** The office operates on a network. Since one person has a legal copy of a software program, and has installed it on the network, everyone is allowed to use it. True or False?

Answer: Either answer may be correct, depending on what the software license says. Some licenses are strict and insist that every person who uses a program, whether it be on a network or not, must purchase the program. Some software companies sell site licenses, and these allow everyone on the network to use the program without purchasing copies for each individual who will use it.

- **Situation #4:** An update for your spreadsheet program arrives. Your co-worker has been asking you for a copy of the program, but you know that it is illegal so you refused. But now that the new version has arrived, and you have no need for the old version, can you give it to your co-worker?

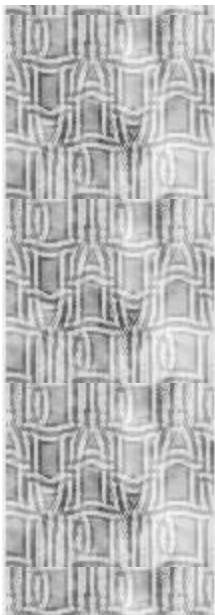
Answer: No. Updates are defined as enhancements to the original package that you purchased. Once the package has been updated, the old package should be surplus or used solely as a backup. If you want to surplus some software (or other University property) you will need to contact the Property and Inventory Control department, 565-2191.

- **Situation #5:** You have a big presentation to give tomorrow and, as five o'clock rolls around, you realize that you have to be home to baby-sit your children. Once the kids are settled in bed, can you use the software from the office on your home machine?

Answer: Maybe. Again, it depends on what the software license says. Some licenses say that software can be used both at home and at the office. Some say that the program can be used on several machines, provided that no two are running at the same time. Some programs are very restrictive, and say that the program can only be used on one machine. If you don't have access to the license, or if you find it ambiguous or unclear, make sure you check with someone such as a technical support person, about the details before you copy anything.

What to Do?

If you find yourself in a quandary over software usage, someone should be able to help you. As a first step, contact Support Services in the Computing Center [ISB 119, (817) 565-2324,



helpdesk@unt.edu], and see if someone there can answer your question.

The Software Publishers Association (SPA - <http://www.spa.org>) operates a toll-free hotline through which you can access information about how to order an anti-piracy video, or a self-audit kit, or just get some anti-piracy information. The number is: 1-800-388-7478. You can contact them via E-mail at piracy@spa.org.

Another organization, the Business Software Alliance (BSA - <http://www.bsa.org/>), also has a toll-free hotline: 1-800-688-BSA1 (2721). FAX: (202)737-7063.

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Unabomber Update

By Claudia Lynch, *Benchmarks* Editor (lynch@unt.edu)

By now you have probably heard that the man who came to be known as "The Unabomber" because of his penchant of mailing bombs to university and airline personnel has more than likely been identified and is under arrest in Montana. In an irony the suspect may never appreciate, the Unabomber persona has sparked the imagination of many on the Internet. There is an on-line campaign to elect him President, run by the Unabomber Political Action Committee (<http://www.paranoia.com/~unapack/>), there is a Unabomber theme song, "Official Unabomber" screen savers and more. You can keep up with the status of the Unabomber case and the net antics it has spawned from the *TIME* Unabomber Web page (<http://pathfinder.com/pathfinder/features/unabomber/index.html>).

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Software Site Licenses at UNT

By [Christopher Strauss](#), Computing Center Support Services Coordinator (strauss@unt.edu)

*A portion of this article appeared in the March/April 1995 issue of **Benchmarks** (Vol. 16, No. 2). That article then formed the basis of the Site License Web page (<http://www-lan.unt.edu/HELPDESK/sitelice.htm>) from which this is taken.*

General Information

The University of North Texas Computing Center makes a wide variety of computer software available to the Denton campus through its networks, host computers, and software site licenses. This article will focus on the software we provide under our various license programs for faculty, staff, and student use on UNT microcomputers.

While some of these programs are centrally funded and available to campus users at no cost, most are charged back to the departments at nominal prices. The primary benefit of these programs to the university is in the cost savings they achieve. Each licensing program provides current commercial software at bulk educational prices, significantly lower than the retail prices for individual packages. The Computing Center manages these licensing programs centrally, but software installation is done at the distributed support level. Briefly, the process works something like this.

We receive the software on CD-ROM or diskette directly from the vendor, and load it to our software distribution server. That server is divided into functional and vendor specific areas, each managed by the appropriate support person in the Computing Center.

As new products become available or upgraded versions arrive, this group sends electronic mail notifications to all distributed software managers. Each network manager, General Access Lab manager, or departmental software manager (often the same person), is then responsible for installing or upgrading the software on their network server for general use.

Distributed support personnel are also responsible for making any diskettes to install stand-alone machines, or for making local installations on networked machines. The procedures for obtaining software in each college, department, or administrative office vary widely; ask your network manager for details.

Available Products

The products available range from highly specialized statistical analysis tools to general purpose commercial word processing software. I will focus on the products intended for microcomputer usage, running under the DOS, Macintosh, OS/2, and Windows environments.

Documentation

Computing Center Support Services maintains some documentation for sale, depending upon the

ease with which we can order, stock, and exchange the materials when new ones come out. We do stock the primary WordPerfect product documentation (WordPerfect and Presentations). We do not stock the Microsoft documentation because it is somewhat expensive, must be ordered first through DIR and then their vendor, and there is simply too much of it (too many different products) to reasonably manage any sort of intelligent stocking levels. We do stock third-party books for the Microsoft Office suite, one of which covers Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and another that covers those three applications plus MS Access.

Documentation listed on our current price list can be obtained by bringing or sending an IDO to Support Services in ISB 119. We can order documentation for you from DIR through an IDO, or you may send them a PO directly. They prefer to take orders on their own order forms, which are Excel spreadsheets. We have separate spreadsheets for Claris, IBM, and Microsoft.

Statistical Tools

UNT provides two high-powered statistical analysis tools, SAS and SPSS, from central funding. The licensing schemes are different, and there are some restrictions on who may obtain copies of which products.

- SAS for DOS is available to all faculty, staff, and students who have a need for it.
- SAS for OS/2 and for Windows is available to faculty and staff, and only to students who are currently enrolled in associated coursework. Distribution to students is normally through the instructor, not the Computing Center.
- SPSS is available to faculty and staff only, on the following platforms: DOS, Macintosh, and Windows. We cannot distribute SPSS to students, as SPSS Inc. markets a low-priced collegiate package through the University bookstore.

Under both of these licensing agreements, UNT provided copies of SAS and SPSS may be used on privately owned microcomputers. SAS and SPSS are available to both Denton campus and Health Science Center users.

The point of contact for statistical tools and research consulting is James Yarbrough at 565-2140.

Corel products (formerly...

WordPerfect products have been available to UNT faculty and staff offices through educational licensing for a number of years. They are also available to students for use in the General Access Labs.

Initially this was through an 8-for-1 educational pricing scheme, with licenses and disks sold directly by the Computing Center. During fiscal year 1993 we operated a centrally funded WordPerfect Customer Advantage Program, using a central distribution server and decentralized installation by software managers.

This program shifted back to reimbursable funding in fiscal 1995. Software managers installed licenses on their servers and stand-alone machines, report quarterly numbers, and reimbursed the Computing Center for each new or upgrade license. Then in early 1996 the University entered into a blanket contract with Novell for all Novell products. Reporting and reimbursement of application product licenses was dropped. Immediately after the contract was signed, Novell moved to divest itself of their applications division (since purchased by Corel). The degree to which our contract with Novell for applications software will be honored and products delivered or updated by Corel is unknown at this time.

Products currently available under this program are WordPerfect for DOS, Macintosh, and Windows; Presentations for DOS and Windows; and Works for DOS and Macintosh. The newest releases are WordPerfect 3.1 for Macintosh, WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows, and Presentations 3.0 for Windows. The new Windows versions sport a tremendous number of new features and completely re-designed interfaces.

Training on WordPerfect products is available through Academic Computing Short Courses and UNT Human Resources Computer Classes. The point of contact for WordPerfect products is Sandy Burke at 565-3856.

Apple Computer, Inc. products

The Computing Center has a direct licensing agreement with Apple Computer, Inc. for System 7.5.1, the latest version of the Macintosh operating system.

Our license allows us to upgrade any UNT-owned (Denton campus) Macintosh to System 7.5.1. This agreement is centrally funded.

NOTE: Version 7.5.2 is shipping only with PCI Macintoshes. The next release that will apply to Nubus as well as PCI Macs will be 7.5.4.

The point of contact for Apple products is Jason Myre at 565-2039 (myre@unt.edu).

The Computing Center is also a point of contact for the Apple College Partnership Program for educational sales, facilitating both personal and departmental purchases of Apple Macintosh hardware. The points of contact for this program regarding departmental sales or individual faculty purchases are Jason Myre at 565-2039 (myre@unt.edu) and Philip Baczewski at 565-3886 (baczewski@unt.edu). Students interested in individual purchases should contact Eriq Neale at 565-4808 (neale@unt.edu) or the University Bookstore.

Department of Information Resources (DIR) site licenses

Beginning last fall, the Computing Center arranged to provide additional lines of software through the State of Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR). At this time we are providing Claris, IBM, and Microsoft products under this arrangement. They are available for use on UNT microcomputers by faculty and staff, and to students through the General Access Labs. We obtain licenses for these products under contracts negotiated by DIR for all State educational organizations, again at very advantageous pricing.

Claris products

We currently make available ClarisWorks 3.0 for Macintosh and Windows, and ClarisDraw 1.0 for Macintosh. Our Macintosh users rate ClarisWorks as the best "works" product by far of all those we have available.

- The point of contract for Claris products is Jason Myre at 565-2039 (myre@unt.edu).

Jason is also the point of contact for any of the Macintosh products from WordPerfect or Microsoft.

IBM Corp. products

The only products of note that we obtain through DIR's IBM contract are the various flavors of OS/2.

Since we do not currently support OS/2 as a desktop environment, but more as a server OS, distribution is limited primarily to technical support staff.

The dissemination of software is normally handled at the distributed support level since it must be locally installed from CD-ROM or diskette. Since OS/2 cannot be installed over the network, it is not mounted on our distribution server. Essentially, the Computing Center provides the vehicle for inexpensive licensing of additional copies for departments who have already obtained diskettes or CD-ROM copies of OS/2.

- The point of contact for OS/2 is Mike Wright at 565-3632 (wright@cc.admin.unt.edu).

Microsoft Corp. products

Applications

Under the DIR contract with Microsoft, virtually every product that Microsoft makes is available to campus users. The greatest interest has been in applications and development tools. The most interesting feature of the new office suite of applications is that they are now virtually identical across the Windows and Macintosh platforms.

The standard office applications, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, share the same user interfaces and exchange files between platforms without translation. For database software, the "xbase" compatible FoxPro is available on both platforms, but the best-seller by far for database work is Access for Windows.

Computer Based Training is now available across the UNT network for Microsoft Office, specifically for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. Although the CBTs are geared towards teaching the Windows interface, Macintosh users will find them helpful if they can get to a DOS machine to run them. The CBTs are DOS based, not Windows, and can be run from almost any mouse-equipped IBM compatible PC on the campus. Instructions for accessing the CBTs were sent by E-mail to all network managers and staff in April. Instructions can also be found on page 7 of this issue.

In development tools, Visual Basic and Visual C++ are available in a number of configurations for DOS, Windows, and Windows NT.

For those needing a quick and dirty Windows desktop publishing program (and don't need the indexing and long-document capabilities of PageMaker, Ventura, or Quark), MS Publisher is available. Most of the Microsoft products are loaded on the software distribution server, and are available through distributed support personnel. With the exceptions noted below under operating systems, all Microsoft software is reimbursed to the Computing Center with the quarterly reports by software managers.

The point of contact for Microsoft products is Chris Strauss at 565-2324 (strauss@unt.edu).

Operating Systems

In addition to the DIR contract with Microsoft, we have our own direct agreement with Microsoft under their Select program for operating systems. This provides us with licensing for MS-DOS, Windows, Windows for Workgroups, and Windows NT at prices generally below those of the DIR contract.

Some DOS upgrades (from versions prior to 5.0) and most MS-Windows installations are currently

funded centrally by the Computing Center. Software managers have the details. The other Windows products are available but must be reimbursed in the same manner as all other Microsoft products.

Windows 95 Yes, our contract with Microsoft does include Windows 95. Pricing is an issue, however, in that Microsoft has not responded to our questions about any price differential between 3.1 and 95 on our UNT contract. That contract is up for renewal this Spring. Recent price lists from DIR indicate a significant difference \$21 for version 3.1 and \$ 97 for 95. We will post information on the Web page and on the Netman-L listserv list when this is resolved.

There are a number of networking issues that must be resolved at both campus and departmental/college level prior to any widespread deployment of Windows 95. This is changing rapidly, so watch our support pages that specifically cover Windows 95. Please discuss your plans to upgrade to Windows 95 with your network manager/software manager. They are the only one who can obtain the software for you under the site license, anyway. It will be their decision (on a case-by-case basis) when and where Windows 95 will be installed on campus.

Training on MS-DOS and Windows is available through Academic Computing Short Courses and UNT Human Resources Computer Classes. The point of contact for Operating Systems is Mike Wright at 565-3632 (wright@cc.admin.unt.edu).

F-PROT Professional and Network

Several small, specialized site licenses are also available on campus. The most well publicized is F-PROT Professional, our primary defense against IBM-PC viruses. We centrally fund this license from a commercial source for all UNT Denton campus associated persons, for both UNT and student-owned machines. It is available for download to diskette by faculty, staff, and students at the Computing Center helpdesk, and in the General Access Labs.

It is also mounted on the software distribution server, along with the NetWare server version NET-PROT, for software managers to install on faculty and staff systems. This is a commercial variant of the program, and is different from the freeware version of F-PROT available on our FTP server and elsewhere on the Internet. The freeware version is for individual use only, and is NOT authorized for use on UNT computers. F-PROT Professional is currently available for DOS and Windows 3.1. A Windows 95 version is due for release this spring, and will be available under current UNT licensing.

The point of contact for F-PROT is Eriq Neale at 565-4808 (neale@unt.edu).

ProComm Plus

Another well-know product is ProComm Plus for DOS, version 1.1b, a solid but dated communications program. UNT purchased a site license for this product years ago that enables us to give copies to any UNT affiliated person (valid UNT ID card holder), free of charge. Attempts to move to newer DOS or Windows versions have been stopped by prohibitive pricing by the vendor.

Windows 95 comes with its own very capable terminal program, HyperTerminal, so demand for a UNT provided terminal program for Windows PC's is actually dropping as students migrate to Windows 95 at home. ProComm is available for download in the Computing Center Help Desk. A UNT ID and signature are required.

Hummingbird eXceed X-Window server

A recent addition to Computing Center managed software is Hummingbird eXceed, an X-Window server for MS-Windows. This product provides X-Windows terminal emulation on a machine running Microsoft Windows 3.1. A fairly robust hardware is required. To date, it has only been used by the Institute for Applied Sciences.

The Computing Center has taken over the site license management in anticipation of increased on-campus demand for a PC-based X-Window server. Local or network installation is fairly complicated, and a new license number must be purchased before the product can be installed. Workstation installation from an established network system is much easier. An FAQ contains specifics on how to order a new license. The latest version (received in February 96) is 5.0.1.

Note: our license only covers Windows 3.1 versions of eXceed. Separate software and licensing contracts will be required for Windows 95 or Windows NT, if there is a demand.

The point of contact for eXceed is Chris Strauss at 565-2324 (strauss@unt.edu).

TCP/IP Windows Socket

Even less well publicized is our license for an essential element of Internet access via Microsoft Windows. This is the Trumpet Windows Socket for TCP/IP connectivity. We have a license for all UNT associated machines.

The software is loaded on the software distribution server for software managers to distribute.

The point of contact for Trumpet Windows Socket is Doug Bateman at 565-2568 (dbateman@unt.edu).

ZoomText Plus

Another little-known license is ZoomText Plus, a DOS product that magnifies screen characters. The user may zoom in by line, window, or full screen. Magnification is from 2X to 16X. The software is especially useful for individuals with certain visual impairments.

ZoomText is a Terminate-and-Stay-Resident program. ZTWin, a program included with ZoomText, is compatible with Windows. It is available through software managers, from the software distribution server, at no cost.

The site license stipulates that the software may be used on any computer at UNT that is OWNED by UNT.

The purchase of UNT's site license was made possible by financial donations from the following UNT departments: School of Community Service Adaptive Lab, Center for Rehabilitation Studies, Office of Disability Accommodation, Equal Opportunity Office, Computing Center, Academic Computing Services General Access Lab, College of Business Administration General Access Lab, College of Education General Access Lab.

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The Educom Code

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Software and Intellectual Rights

Respect for intellectual labor and creativity is vital to academic discourse and enterprise. This principle applies to works of all authors and publishers in all media. It encompasses respect for the right to acknowledgment, right to privacy and right to determine the form, manner, and terms of publications and distribution.

Because electronic information is volatile and easily reproduced, respect for the work and personal expression of others is especially critical in computer environments. Violations of authorial integrity, including plagiarism, invasion of privacy, unauthorized access, and trade secret and copyright violations, may be grounds for sanctions against members of the academic community.

1A code for colleges and universities from the EDUCOM Software Initiative (<http://educom.edu>).

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The Rules of the Internet

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Assistant Director of Academic Computing (baczewski@unt.edu)

*This is an edited version of an article that appeared in the [March/April](#) 1995 issue of **Benchmarks** (Vol. 16, No. 2, pg. 14).*

Many of us have come to rely on Wide Area Networks to support various aspects of our scholarship. The use of BITNET and NSFNET, i.e. the Internet, are now taken for granted by many at colleges and universities. Periodically, however, it is helpful to review the usage guidelines of these networks so that these resources that we take so for granted are not intentionally or unintentionally subjected to abuses of the privilege of access. At UNT it is also University policy that those accessing Wide Area Networks shall abide by the policies of those networks.¹ It is very important, then, that if you use the Internet, you read and maintain a handy copy of their policies.

We last published the CREN usage guidelines in the March/April 1995 issue of *Benchmarks*. They are repeated below to familiarize you with them or refresh your memory of them. Also included below are the NSFNET usage guidelines. Although UNT is no longer a member of CREN, we still access BITNET sites on the Internet. Similarly, although NSFNET may be officially "dead" (see *Benchmarks*, [Vol. 16, No. 2](#)), its guidelines are still considered to be good "rules of the road" for the Information Superhighway.

Corporation for Research and Educational Networking Acceptable Use Policy²

CREN networks are for the use of persons legitimately affiliated with CREN Member or Affiliate organizations, to facilitate the exchange of information consistent with the academic, educational and research purposes of its members. All individuals affiliated with CREN Member or Affiliate organizations are responsible for seeing that their communities are aware of these guidelines, and that the guidelines are followed, both in letter and in spirit.

CREN networks are, at the discretion of the institutions involved, open to use by students enrolled at participating CREN Member or Affiliate educational institutions.

Use of CREN networks shall:

- Be consistent with the purposes and goals of the networks.
- Avoid interfering with the work of other users of the networks.
- Avoid disrupting the network host systems (nodes).
- Avoid disrupting network services.

Acceptable Use of the Networks

The following examples may help users of the networks apply these principles in particular cases.

- Messages that are likely to result in the loss of recipients' work or systems are prohibited.
- CREN networks are not to be used for commercial purposes, such as marketing, reselling bandwidth, or business transactions between commercial organizations.
- Advertising is forbidden. Discussion of a product's relative advantages and disadvantages by users of the product is encouraged. Vendors may respond to questions about their products as long as the responses are not in the nature of advertising.

- CREN networks may be used for the provision of services which support the needs and purposes of the CREN networks, and for which a charge is made, if the network is an optional mechanism for provision of this service for which no additional charge is made, and as long as the use of the service is consistent with the bandwidth of the network and the forwarding hosts. Providers of such information may be non-profit or for-profit organizations.
- Any communication which violates applicable laws and regulations is not allowed.**

Users of CREN networks are expected to be responsible in their use:

- "Chain letters," "broadcasting" messages to lists or individuals, and other types of use which would cause congestion of the networks or otherwise interfere with the work of others are not allowed.
- BITNET files will be limited to sizes determined and reviewed periodically. (Note: The current limit is 300,000 bytes per file transmitted.)

CREN Members or Affiliates are expected to take reasonable measures (given the constraints of technology and management) to ensure that traffic using gateways between CREN networks and other networks conforms to these guidelines.

Final authority for CREN acceptable use policies lies with the CREN Board. It is the responsibility of member representatives to contact the CREN Board, in writing, regarding questions of interpretation. Until such issues are resolved, questionable use should be considered "not acceptable."

The NSFNET Acceptable Use Policy³

The purpose of NSFNET is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the U.S. by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work.

This statement represents a guide to the acceptable use of the NSFNET backbone. It is only intended to address the issue of use of the backbone. It is expected that the various middle level networks will formulate their own use policies for traffic that will not traverse the backbone.

1. All use must be consistent with the purpose of NSFNET.
2. The intent of the use policy is to make clear certain cases which are consistent with the purposes of NSFNET, not to exhaustively enumerate all such possible uses.
3. The NSF NSFNET Project Office may at any time make determinations that particular uses are or are not consistent with the purposes of NSFNET. Such determinations will be reported to the NSFNET Policy Advisory Committee and to the user community.
4. If a use is consistent with the purposes of NSFNET, then activities in direct support of that use will be considered consistent with the purposes of NSFNET. For example, administrative communications for the support infrastructure needed for research and instruction are acceptable.
Use in support of research or instruction at not-for-profit institutions of research or instruction in the United States is acceptable.
5. *Use for a project which is part of or supports a research or instruction activity for a not-for-profit institution of research or instruction in the United States is acceptable, even if any or all parties to the use are located or employed elsewhere. For example, communications directly between industrial affiliates engaged in support of a project for such an institution is acceptable.*
6. *Use for commercial activities by for-profit institutions is generally not acceptable unless it can be justified under (4) above. These should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the NSF Project Office.*
7. *Use for research or instruction at for-profit institutions may or may not be consistent with the purposes of NSFNET, and will be reviewed by the NSF Project Office on a case-by-case basis.*

1 University Of North Texas Policy Manual, Classification 3.6, Section 4.8.d.

2 The following is available from CREN's Web server (<http://www.cren.net/>) under CREN, and from info.cren.net via ftp as (/cren/terms) or via Gopher. For more information contact the Corporation for Research and Educational Networking, Suite 600, 1112 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036 Phone: (202) 872-4200.

3 This NSFNET Acceptable Use Policy statement is available from the Coalition for Networked Information Information Policies Web page (<http://www.cni.org/docs/infopols/www/preliminaries.html>). Many other policies, position statements, principles, statutes and such are also available from that page.

*** In particular, messages and data sent to destinations outside the U.S. must satisfy the Department of Commerce regulations (either be within the GTDA guidelines for information which may be generally transmitted or have the required license).*

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The Network Connection

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Assistant Director, Academic Computing Services (baczewski@unt.edu)

*This column is a continuing feature of **Benchmarks** intended to present news and information on various aspects of wide area networks.*



Pounding the Virtual Pavement

It's that time of year again - graduation time - uh-oh, it's time to get a real job quick, where do you find a real job? Let's see - there's the newspaper, job placement services, career fairs, and even the old-fashioned method of "pounding the pavement." Ah, but there's more. Nowadays, the Internet offers a number of avenues to that elusive goal of gainful employment.¹

In the "old days" - about three years ago - there were job notices on the Internet, but they were mostly found in USENET news messages and on university campus information services. The increased popularity of the World Wide Web and the presence of many more commercial concerns on the Internet has opened up a whole new resource for a job search.

Where to Start Looking

So, you're out on the information superhighway and you don't know which way to go. There are a couple of approaches you can take. If you want some tips on the process of finding a job, there's a Web page that can help. The "Career and Job-Hunting Resources" page (<http://www.stetson.edu/~hansen/careers.html>), maintained by Dr. Randall S. Hansen of Stetson University, has links to some helpful information like a career mapper, to help you determine which is the job for you, and job search tips, which provides advice on contacting employers and navigating the interview process. Hansen's page also has links to a number of online employment notices pages.

Another Web page which provides career advice specifically for women is the "Getting There" page from Women's Wire magazine (<http://www.women.com/work/go/start.html>). This page highlights various jobs and the skills and interests which support success in a career path. The page also provides biographies of women already working in those jobs and describes their typical job activities.

Targeting your Job Search

Is there a company you'd really like to work for? Many companies list their job openings on their Web pages, especially technology companies. Always wanted to work for IBM? Go to <http://www.ibm.com/>, select "About IBM" and you'll find an Employment section. Maybe computers aren't your cup of tea, but you are choosy about your peanut butter. Visit <http://www.pg.com/> and see what opportunities are available at Proctor and Gamble. If you are unsure whether a particular company has a Web page, you can do an Internet search on that company's name.

Don't forget that many Colleges and Universities still publish their employment opportunities as part of their Campus Information systems (which are mostly Web pages, these days). If you want to stay within an academic environment, listings of openings are readily available. The Federal government also publishes job openings on the Internet. You can search for a position in your geographical area

at the "Federal Job Search" page (<http://www.fedworld.gov/jobs/jobsearch.html>).

You might be looking for a job close to where you live or someplace where you've always wanted to live. Sometimes, you'll find employment opportunities on a Web page for a particular city or state. City Net (<http://www.city.net/>), is primarily a travel-oriented page which provides information on locales across the United States and around the world. The pages for each city, however, link to many other local pages which may provide you with some leads on employment in that area.

Another place to look for jobs is in areas related to your chosen field. Many professional societies post job listings. If the society has a Web page, that may be a good place to look for your job in the field.

Establishing your Web Presence

There are many employment listings on the Web, and many of those services allow you to post your resume or at least a profile of your training and experience. A lot of these Web pages are available to you at no charge and are used by employers to search for likely candidates. Using these types of services may be more effective than sending unsolicited E-mail or even responding to an online notice. If an employer expresses an interest in you because you fit their needed profile, then you may be already halfway there towards a successful job search.

Web-based Job Resources

▪ Advice

- <http://www.stetson.edu/~hansen/careers.html> The Career and Job-Hunting Resources Page
- <http://www.women.com/work/go/start.html> Getting There
- <http://www.newwork.com/> Brave New Work World
- <http://www.eneews.com:80/magazines/nbew/> The National Business Employment Weekly

▪ Listings

- <http://www.cweb.com/> CareerWEB - jobs, employment, and careers
- <http://www.careermart.com/> BSA CareerMart
- <http://diads.com/rc/owa/jbb.search> Search the NACCB JobBoard
- <http://www.careermag.com/> NCS Career Magazine
- <http://www.fiber.net/topjobs/> TOPjobs(tm) USA by DiSX
- <http://www.job-link.com/> Job-Link
- <http://www.careerscape.com/> Welcome To CareerScape!
- <http://www.occ.com/occ/> Online Career Center
- <http://www.travelersonline.com/jobs/> Internet Job Locator
- <http://www.internet-is.com/skillsearch/> SkillSearch
- <http://www.bestjobsusa.com> Best Jobs in the USA Today
- <http://www.service.com/cm/cm1.html> Career Mosaic
- <http://rescomp.stanford.edu/jobs> Job Hunt
- <http://www.monster.com> Monster Board
- <http://www.occ.com/occ> Online Career Center
- <http://www.pe.utexas.edu/Dept/Reading/pejb.html> Petroleum Pages: Jobs

▪ Regional Listings



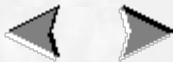
- <http://www.utdallas.edu/dfw/employment/> Dallas/Fort Worth Job Openings
- <http://www.longhornjobs.com/> Longhorn Employment Services
- <http://job.sid.net/> High Tech-Georgia Job Bank

▪ **Job Related News Groups**

- misc.jobs.contract
- misc.jobs.fields.chemistry
- misc.jobs.misc
- misc.jobs.offered
- misc.jobs.offered.entry
- misc.jobs.resumes
- bionet.jobs.offered
- bionet.jobs.wanted
- biz.jobs.offered
- dfw.jobs
- tx.jobs
- utcs.jobs
- utexas.jobs

1 The story of one person's successful search for employment (and a place to live) appeared in the last issue of *Benchmarks* ([Vol. 17, No. 1](#))

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Cyberspace Law

By [Claudia Lynch](#), *Benchmarks* Editor (lynch@unt.edu)

As you can tell by the contents of this issue of *Benchmarks*, "law" as it relates to the Internet is a major topic of concern for a **lot** of people. If this is something you are interested in also, you might want to subscribe to CYBERSPACE-LAW, a free E-mail Internet seminar for non-lawyers.

>p>According to the information posted about the list on NEW-LIST, a mailing list about new mailing lists, one message every couple of days will be sent to subscribers. The messages will be about basic principles of the law of copyright, free speech, libel, privacy, contract and trademark as they apply to the Internet.

The seminar is aimed at educated laypeople, so they promise no legalese and Latin. The list is run by Larry Lessing, University of Chicago Law School; David Post, Georgetown University Law School; and Eugene Volokh, UCLA Law school.

To subscribe, send the following message to listproc-request@counsel.com:

subscribe cyberspace-law yourfirstname yourlastname

CyberLegal Research

Another source of information about cyberspace law is the Web site of CyberLegal Research (<http://www.eden.com/~case/index.html>). This site is described (in the announcement of it's existence to Net-Happenings, a forum for announcing such things) as a "forum for chronicling the evolution of the Law in cyberspace." Not only will you have access to a wide variety of Legal Resources on the Web & Opinion/Commentary from the Editor, but most notably is the Judicial Proclamations section covering "Skirmishes on the Digital Frontier."

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List of the Month

Each month we will highlight one BITNET, Internet, or USENET Special Interest Group (SIG) mailing list. This month's list...

CompLaw: Computer/Internet Law Discussion List

CompLaw via CompLaw-request@CompLaw.com **Owner:** Samuel Lewis, Esq.
(slewis@CompLaw.com)

CompLaw is a mailing list for the discussion of computer/Internet law, intellectual property, and general legal issues. The list is unmoderated and open to anyone with an interest in the subject matter.

To subscribe via E-mail: send a blank E-mail message to CompLaw-request@CompLaw.com with the subject subscribe. Please be sure to turn your signature off.

For the Digest version of the list, send a blank E-mail message to CompLaw-Digest-request@CompLaw.com with the subject **subscribe**

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On the World Wide Web: <http://www.complaw.com/cgi-bin/lwgate/COMPLAW> or for the Digest version, <http://www.complaw.com/cgi-bin/lwgate/COMPLAW-DIGEST>

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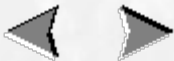
Student E-mail Program Available

By [Dr. Philip Baczewski](#), Assistant Director, Academic Computing Services
(baczewski@unt.edu)

Academic Computing Services is providing an Electronic Mail client program, named Simeon, for students who use the Jove UNIX system to send and receive mail. Simeon will let you use your Windows PC or Macintosh computer to read electronic mail that comes to a mailbox on a UNIX host machine. Students at UNT can use the UNIX system, jove.acs.unt.edu (Jove), to receive and send E-mail. Simeon does away with the need for learning UNIX commands and mail programs by using the features of Windows or Mac/OS to provide a friendly interface to read, reply to, file, and compose electronic mail messages.

Academic Computing, in conjunction with Computing Center Support Services, is **testing** the use of Simeon and ways that the software can be distributed to UNT students. The software itself is fully functional and is licensed for use by UNT students as long as they are actively enrolled. For more information, or to download a copy of Simeon, visit the UNT Simeon World Wide Web page at <http://pcb2.acs.unt.edu/simeon/>, or contact Computing Center Support Services at (817) 565-2324.

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Academic Mainframe Items of Interest

By Cathy Hardy, Academic Database Consultant (AC55@vm.acs.unt.edu)

J2

Ever wondered where that job you submitted to Academic MVS (from CMS) went? Did you think it just went to the great bit bucket in the sky? Check the MVS queue with J2, the CMS interface to the Academic MVS system.

The trick here is to use the current UNT job naming convention in your job as J2 will only let you see jobs whose name begins with the first 4 characters of your logon User-ID. Coincidentally, your MVS User-ID just happens to be 4 characters! If your User-ID is xxnn, the jobcard begins with `//xxnn` or `//xxnnpgm`, for example.

After your job has been submitted you can check it on the MVS queue. At the CMS Ready prompt, type J2 and any jobs you have on the MVS queue (input, output, waiting to spool to a printer) will magically appear. If it's MIA (missing in action, in the bit bucket in the sky, etc. (insert your favorite euphemism here), you can list the job and see why it didn't run.

Usually at the beginning of a semester we see quite a few jobs in limbo because of a problem in the jobcard. When MVS finds a problem in a jobcard, it stops. So it never gets to the route cards to get the job back to CMS and the user is perplexed. It's magic - the job is submitted, then disappears!

MVS/ESA

In July, 1995, UNT received a new IBM 9672-R51 mainframe and Academic computing moved off the HDS 8083 to share the 9672 with Administrative Computing. When we moved, we were able to go from a VM/XA operating system to VM/ESA and a new version of CMS. Working around the semester schedule, we will bid a (fond?) farewell to MVS/SP at the end of this semester and welcome MVS/ESA1.

We try to keep all version and maintenance levels of Academic software as equal as possible across systems on the mainframe for users. Since some of the newer versions of software are not able to run on MVS/SP, things have been held up. For example, when we convert to MVS/ESA, we'll be upgrading SAS (to 6.08 on MVS) and then we'll bring the SAS level on CMS up to match.

One thing CMS users have already noticed with VM/ESA is that all CMS virtual machines have 4 meg of storage instead of the 2 meg of storage machines had in the past.

To keep up with our progress, don't fly by the logon message when you come into CMS. It only takes a second to read and then you'll know our progress. As we go, log messages will be updated.

1 Currently scheduled for May 16-21. A VM/CMS system upgrade (to VM/ESA version 2.1.0) is scheduled for May 22-29.

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Videoconference Across Texas

By Jenny Jopling, Interactive Learning Consultant (jopling@unt.edu)

[UNT](#) is now a member of the Trans-Texas Videoconference Network (TTVN), a statewide two-way interactive system. [A&M](#) owns and operates the service from College Station, extending to sixty-two other sites in Texas and Mexico which will be listed on the UNT web site soon. TTVN offers point to point conferencing, which is a two-way signal between two sites, and multi-point conferencing, which allows up to twelve simultaneous connections to different sites. Visual images are automatically voice-switched as the locations of speakers change.

TTVN maintains videoconference connections to the [University of Texas](#) System, [Texas Woman's University](#) System, the [Sprint](#) Meeting Channel, Texas Education Collaborative Network (TEC Net), several other Texas universities, community colleges, libraries, and the satellite uplink/downlink facilities at Educational Broadcast Services in College Station¹. TTVN also provides gateway services for dial-up videoconferences to non-network sites.

TTVN was primarily used for administrative purposes when it started in 1991. It has since shifted to a more academic role, allowing remote sites to work out agreements with other institutions to offer courses that are not being taught locally, teach the same course in a cooperative effort, and hold special events for classes to meet with other classes or instructors.

TTVN helps reduce travel costs and time, plus gives faster and wider dissemination of information with the advantage of pupil/instructor interaction.

How do I get on? What courses are being offered?

Faculty are wondering by now, how do I get on? What courses are being offered?

When I asked A&M how these courses get scheduled, they implied that their main role is to act as a facilitator for the service. In other words, the courses result from collaboration between faculty members at participating sites who identify the need and pursue it through their respective channels. Once you agree with another site to pursue course approval and scheduling, your contact on campus is Ruby Raines in the Provost's Office at x3951 or E-mail to Raines in GroupWise or Raines@acad.admin.unt.edu for the Internet. I am not familiar with the scheduling situation yet, but would suggest including a flexibility factor for your time slot, not to mention making your request as quickly as possible because TTVN operates on a first come, first served basis.

To schedule an administrative meeting, you need to contact Christian Ward from the Center for Instructional Services at x4770 or E-mail to Cshaw@scs.unt.edu.

Although I do not have a listing of course offerings yet, they are enroute to me by mail. I plan to post as much information about the new service as possible on the web. Stay tuned for the new address which will be posted under "What's New" on UNT's home page. If you have questions unrelated to course or meeting scheduling, feel free to call me at x4462 or E-mail Jopling@unt.edu

Our videoconferencing room is in Chilton Hall 245, where we could previously only connect to UNT Health Science Center in Ft. Worth. We are also in the process of connecting the NT Federation which includes UNT, TWU and ETSU.

Go to the next page for a list of sites.



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TTVN Sites

These sites are currently connected to the Trans-Texas Video conference Network (TTVN). For more information on TTVN, click [here](#).

- Abilene - [Abilene Christian University](#)
- Austin - Hirshfeld-Moore House; Texas Capitol Complex
- Canyon - West Texas A&M University
- College Station - College of Business; Biochemistry/Biophysics; Board of Regents; Educational Broadcast Services; Geosciences; Harrington #1; Harrington #2; Heep Agriculture Center; TAMUS Headquarters; Wisenbaker Engineering Center; College of Medicine; Texas Transportation Institute
- Commerce - [East Texas State University #1](#); [East Texas State University #2](#)
- Corpus Christi- [TAMU- Corpus Christi #1](#); [TAMU-Corpus Christi #2](#)
- Dallas - Texas A&M Agriculture Center
- Denton - [Texas Woman's University](#); [University of North Texas](#)
- El Paso - Texas A&M Agriculture Center
- Galveston -[TAMU-Galveston #1](#); [TAMU-Galveston #2](#)
- Houston - Inst. of Biosciences & Tech #1; Inst. of Biosciences & Tech #2; Prairie View A&M Nursing
- Kingsville - [TAMU-Kingsville #1](#); [TAMU-Kingsville #2](#)
- Laredo - TAMU International University #1; TAMU International University #2
- Lubbock - TAMU Agriculture Center
- Prairie View - Prairie View A&M University #1; Prairie View A&M University #2; Prairie View A&M University #3
- Richmond - Fort Bend County Library
- San Antonio - HemisFair Plaza; St Philip's College #1; St Philip's College #2
- Stephenville - [Tarleton State University #1](#); [Tarleton State University #2](#)
- Temple - TAMU Health Science Center
- Texarkana - ETSU - Texarkana
- Uvalde - Southwest Texas Junior College; TAMU Agriculture Center
- Weslaco - TAMU Agriculture Center
- Wichita Falls - [Midwestern State University](#)

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Information Resources Council News

**Minutes provided by Sue Ellen
Richey, Recording Secretary**



*IRC Regular Voting Members: David
Shrader, College of Music (Chair);
Douglas Allen, Student Association;
Walter Bowen, Academic*

*Administration; Bill Buntain, Communications Program Group; Cengiz Capan, College of Business;
Carolyn Cunningham, Student Affairs; Paul Dworak, College of Music; Brian Forsman, UNT
Health Science Center; Chuck Fuller, Fiscal Affairs; Don Grose, Libraries; Joneel Harris,
Administrative Program Group; David Hartman, School of Community Services; Jenny Jopling,
Instruction Program Group; Sam Magill, UNTHSC Director of Information Technology Services;
Sharon Marek, Graduate Student Council; Steve Miller, Human Resources; Dennis Mueller,
Research Program Group; Russ Pensyl, School of Visual Arts; Paul Schlieve, College of Education;
Kathleen Swigger, College of Arts and Sciences; John Todd, Faculty Senate; Virginia Wheeless,
Chancellor; IRC Ex-officio Nonvoting Members: Jim Curry, Microcomputer Maintenance Shop;
Richard Harris, Computing Center; Coy Hoggard, Computing Center; Maurice Leatherbury,
Computing Center.*

February 20, 1996

GroupWise Status Report

Paul Dworak reported that the E-Mail Project Managers had met on January 26th and had gone over a project outline. Prior to conversion of the Administration Building to Netware 4.1 and GroupWise, several software applications written in Clipper have to be converted. The current schedule is to convert the Admin. building before Spring Break; datacom changes are in progress; and student workers who will constitute a "sweep team" going from work station to work station are being trained. He reported that the committee also discussed "Everyone" mail and the pros and cons of moderated lists and unmoderated lists. In addition, the committee discussed resource naming, as well as the fact that at the present time the Computing Center is not supporting E-mail running under Windows 95.

Bill Buntain reported that his group is in the final stages of establishing the asynchronous gateway which will give dial-up access to the GroupWise E-mail system for faculty and staff using that system. He explained that this will be accessible to only those students whose department has given them a GroupWise E-mail account. The Computing Center is in the process of making Simeon E-mail available for students so that they can access their E-mail through a Jove account.

Strategic Planning Committee

Richard Harris distributed minutes of a February 13, 1996 Strategic Planning Committee meeting as well as a Draft Charge to a proposed Ad Hoc Committee on Distributed Support Issues. Harris reported that the SPC had met to review the NCHEMS Consultant's report, with particular attention

to technical support issues. The committee agreed to recommend the establishment of a task force and offered a suggested membership list for approval by the IRC. Susan Pierce developed a suggested charge for that committee which includes:

1. conducting a study to evaluate methods for improving quality of, and manpower utilization in support of, distributed computing platforms;
2. considering some formal central coordination of decentralized computing units to provide a higher and more consistent level of service across the institution; and
3. developing guidelines or standards for computer support staffing levels in groups such as a department or a network group. The goal of the ad hoc committee will be to bring an interim report and recommendation to the IRC at its March meeting, in time to affect the upcoming budget cycle, then come back with a final report in April or May.

There was some discussion of the proposed membership list, resulting in a motion by Don Grose to add one faculty member and one staff user to the committee membership and establish the committee with the recommended charge. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Administrative Program Group

Joneel Harris reported that the Administration Program Group has two meetings scheduled, one on Feb. 29th for the purpose of a presentation by the Automated Purchasing and Accounts Payable Task Force for an overview of their recommendations of a new system. A presentation by People Soft of a very interesting software product is also planned for March 7.

Communications Issues

Bill Buntain re-introduced the proposal to extend the fiber optics backbone; which had been presented at the January IRC meeting. Discussion followed. Richard said this proposal has been discussed at a IRC Steering Committee meeting and they requested more information. Richard stated that he believes the Steering Committee is now ready to act on this proposal. Bill stated that less money had been allocated for wiring of the new Student Services Building because it is so close to other buildings that are already wired; explaining that the farther away a building is from the main conduit, the more it costs to get the wiring to it. The Chair asked for a recommendation that extension of the fiber optics backbone be considered a campus-wide building project and deserves to be considered in the same manner as utilities. A motion was passed that the proposal be forwarded to the Vice Presidents as a construction request.

Bill presented a proposal to upgrade the campus broadband/catv system recommending that:

1. the system's amplifiers should be replaced or upgraded;
2. that responsibility for managing the channels allocated to video applications should be assigned to the same unit charged with the distance learning initiative with interim responsibility being assumed by CIS;
3. that the backup head-end equipment be moved to the Information Sciences Building to improve the University's disaster recovery position; and
4. that the amplifier which services Crumley and the Music Annex be moved from a manhole into Crumley and an amplifier be added to service the Music Annex. The total estimated cost of the proposal is \$42,000 and has already been included in the Computing Center HEAF budget. Bill explained that the purpose of his bringing the proposal before the IRC is to help the committee see that the broadband is still useful and may be more important as UNT moves into distance learning more. Virginia Wheelless suggested that Bill talk with the Provost about the proposal prior to a vote on this proposal by the IRC.

Bill Buntain reported that a memo describing Premium Dial-up service has been approved by the

Provost's office and will be distributed to all faculty very soon. He offered a set of overheads and the services of his staff to make presentations to any group on campus who wishes that.

Bill also reported that the 10BaseT wiring already installed on the campus does not conform to current industry standards so a project is going to be initiated to switch the wall jacks wiring and associated computer cables so that they will conform. It was noted that the current industry standard was not established until after UNT had wired several buildings using the new 10BaseT technology.

Standards and Cooperation Program Group

Paul Dworak reported that the Standards and Cooperation Program Group met and discussed the Supported Items List; he said the committee plans to compile a table showing a minimum machine configuration for using the types of applications people most frequently use, giving the minimum amount of memory needed for running those applications under Windows, OS/2 and Macintosh. The table will be made available to anyone planning to purchase a new computer. The committee also discussed questions for the Strategic Planning questionnaire as well as an Acceptable Use Policy they are drafting.

March 26, 1996

GroupWise Status Report

Paul Dworak reported that the ABN conversion to GroupWise has been completed with minimum difficulties. The Computing Center staff is working on the continuing process of implementing backup products and, as a result of the way that process is going, there is an evaluation of RAM increases for servers across campus which is being costed out at the present time. The group discussed the minimum 180-day auto deletion of E-mail messages, which is tied to the reliability of the product and to the ease of backing up servers successfully. Planned future migrations were discussed, noting that SCS and Library have organization in terms of staffing now but will need to coordinate with Computing Center. Some other areas will need extra support so the time table is being planned in such a way that everybody's needs get met effectively and in a time frame when faculty and staff most want the conversions to be done. There is a calendar being put together to show when each academic and administrative unit will be converted. There was also discussion of the dialup access to E-mail to determine what kind of support that would be needed and how to make that service available gradually.

Strategic Planning Committee

Richard Harris reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had met on March 5 with the major items discussed being the NCHEMS Final Report and the Strategic Plan. There was a tentative plan to conduct a user survey in connection with this current planning process but it has been decided to postpone that to the second year of each biennium. It was decided to ask the Program Groups to bring their comments on the NCHEMS recommendations to the IRC. Susan Pierce stated that Program Groups need to provide an assessment about what has been done since the last report sent to DIR and their assessment of what still needs to be done to meet strategic goals. These reports need to be presented to the IRC in May.

Distributed Computing Support

Bill Buntain reported on the activities of the ad hoc Committee on Distributed Computing Support. The group was charged to bring an interim report to this IRC meeting with a final report due to the IRC in May. The committee opted to focus on those issues that have a budgetary impact and to deal

with management practice, and standardization issues between now and May. The group's report was distributed. The committee conducted a survey on the various distributed computing areas to determine their user base, the type of machines they support, type and quantity of support; and the group came up with four recommendations, as follows:

1. Bring the staffing levels of computer support up to a ratio of 100 users and/or machines per support person. This will require an addition of up to seven full-time and 4.25 FTE part-time positions to support. [A prioritized list of positions was presented, showing where the positions will be allocated.]
2. Computing support positions should continue to be organized by colleges/schools and administrative departments. Campus units with fewer than 100 users should consolidate support teams to insure a critical mass of support personnel.
3. A Distributed Computing Support Management Group composed of support managers from units across campus should be formed that would meet monthly and recommend policies and procedures for computing on campus.
- 4.
5. The Computing Center should review existing operations and make recommendations to the IRC on staffing and organizational structures that would adequately support 24-hour computing support for central computer operations supporting distributed computing platforms.

The consensus of the committee is that the support problems on campus are a result of a shortage of resources, rather than a need to change the basic support structure. Bill pointed out that to provide adequate support, a service fee of \$.60 per credit hour could be assessed. Discussion followed. If that degree of funding is not approved, the committee will have to re-evaluate their proposal and either scale back the number of staff positions requested or the level of the positions requested. The consensus of the IRC members was to send the report to the Vice Presidents and ask for their feedback on the possibility of such a funding request.

Automated Purchasing/Accounts Payable Project

Joneel Harris introduced Ginger Heiman, who made a presentation to the council on the proposed Automated Purchasing/Accounts Payable project. Joneel explained that the presentation was for information only and that IRC approval was not necessary, but endorsement would be welcomed. A motion was passed to endorse the project.

Communications Program Group

Bill Buntain reported for the Communications Program Group that no feedback had been received from the Vice Presidents regarding the funding of the fiber project. He also reported that at the last IRC meeting, he had brought a proposal for upgrading the broadband system. He asked if the IRC wanted to take some action on that even though it was not necessary, since the project is already funded through the Computing Center's budget. Hearing no objections, the Chair asked Bill to proceed on that project.

Bill also reported that the Communications Program Group has looked at the wiring projects that still need to be done (Matthews Hall Annex, Highland Hall and Coliseum). The total cost of the three buildings will be \$11,000. Edwards & Chestnut Hall will be wired on an "as needed" basis, because the future of those two buildings is uncertain. It was agreed to defer re-wiring of the Sullivant Center until remodeling is completed.

Instruction Program Group

Jenny Jopling distributed a Preliminary Proposal for small classroom upgrades, which she asked members to read prior to the April IRC meeting, at which time she will make a more formal presentation.

April 16, 1996

Paul Dworak reported that in the April 9 meeting of the Project Managers, several issues were dealt with, such as "Everyone" E-mail messages being moderated by PAIS; using the World Wide Web as news sites and for discussion groups. He reported that the few problems incurred in the ABN implementation have been resolved. Future planned conversions are the DSA server in May, and then SCS in the summer.

Bill Buntain reported that the ARCserve software has been received, which will enable backup of mail servers. He confirmed that the DSA server has been scheduled for GroupWise implementation, and SCS' conversion to Netware 4 will be done at the end of Spring semester, with implementation of GroupWise later in the summer.

Richard Harris distributed a copy of the home page that Susan Pierce set up for the Strategic Planning Committee discussion of the Information Resources Strategic Plan. When asked if this is a facility that can be used by other discussion groups on campus, Doug Bateman explained that this particular home page was set up as a test and that he is not yet convinced that the software used to accomplish it is the best vehicle for this type of discussion group. He said he didn't want to make it widely available for use at this time.

Virginia Wheelless invited IRC members and guests to take a look at the University Strategic Plan and comment about it on their web site.

Comments on NCHEMS Report

The Chair introduced the subject of the Program Groups' comments on the NCHEMS report findings and copies of their comments were distributed. There was general discussion of the report findings which revealed divergent opinions on some findings, and agreement on others. It was suggested that all of the Program Groups' comments be pulled together in one document, given to Richard Harris for discussion at a Strategic Planning Committee meeting before being E-mailed to IRC members prior to the May meeting.

Carolyn Cunningham asked Coy Hoggard to make a report on some new application software. Coy stated that they are looking at new software for on-line report viewing which has some cost savings potential.

Instruction Program Group

Jenny Jopling announced that Bill McCarter has agreed to Co-Chair the Instruction Program Group. She distributed that group's proposal for the upgrade of small classrooms. The proposal is to set a campus-wide standard for technology by permanently installing in each classroom basic equipment such as monitors or projectors with screens that will accommodate viewing of video, data and slides; multimedia computers, VCRs, speakers (all enclosed in secure cabinetry), as well as provide live data jacks for connection to the LAN. The proposal also provides for the purchase of additional laser disk players and overhead projectors, as well as additional staff for maintenance and repair of equipment. Jenny stated that the proposal does not include Wooten Hall, because it is assumed that basic equipment will be included in the already planned renovation of that building. Jenny explained that the implementation of the upgrade would take place over 3 years with a funding request of \$689,500 the first year, \$714,000 the second, and \$758,500 the third. Jenny stated that surveys of

departments and faculty focus groups provided the data for this proposal, regarding what classroom users would like to have available in the classroom. Discussion followed.

The Chair thanked the committee for its report; stating that it looks at what the minimum equipment is for a classroom for broad spectrum usage. The consensus of the discussion was that one-size-fits-all is a starting place but it is not what's going to be the ultimate solution; a room by room investigation of usage needs to be done and then tailor the equipment to that usage. It was suggested that a management system of identification, and assessment of need be set up so that classroom scheduling is done according to faculty technology needs. The Chair asked that the Program Group take the comments of the IRC back to the committee, modify the proposal accordingly, if it wishes, and present it for a vote at the May IRC meeting. He asked that if modifications are made to the proposal, that it be distributed to members a week prior to the May meeting.

Distributed Support Issues

Bill Buntain reported that at the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Distributed Support Issues, the committee recommended that rather than it continue to function, the larger distributed computing support management group be established to broaden the base of representation on the committee to deal with how to change management practices. The ad hoc committee will meet one more time and then pass recommendations on to the on-going management group. There was consensus in the IRC for the ad hoc committee to proceed as recommended. The ad hoc committee will draft a final report and forward it to the IRC prior to the May meeting.

Research Program Group

Dennis Mueller reported that the Research Program Group had met to address issues surrounding strategic objectives in the area of research. They have met with vendors and research computer users regarding the purchase of a new UNIX machine and there is agreement now to purchase the SUN machine; it will be acquired and installed this summer. It was noted that the funding of this acquisition has already been approved by the IRC, but the Program Group asked for support of their choice of machines. It was so granted.

Computer Use Fee Increase Request

Ginny Anderson asked the council to approve a computer use fee increase of \$1.00; half of which is needed to cover the increased cost of allowing payment of tuition and fees with credit cards, and the other half to support the General Access Labs. Ginny explained that since enrollment continues to decline and lab usage continues to go up, a fee increase is essential to enable the general access labs to continue providing high quality equipment, software, and service in the labs. It was pointed out that the IRC had previously approved this increase, but that it was not approved by the Chancellor and Vice Presidents. IRC rules requiring matters to be voted on at a meeting subsequent to their presentation, were suspended and a motion was passed to approve the fee increase.

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Staff Activities

Awards

- **C.R. Chevli**, Computer Systems Manager, Data Communications, was recognized as an outstanding employee at the Chancellor's Staff Sack Lunch in February.
- **Rory Rivoire**, Data Communications, was recognized for 5 years of service in February.
- **Don Swatloski**, Leader of the Database, Central Programming Support Team was recognized for 25 years of service in February.

Transitions

- **Dr. Maurice Leatherbury** became Director of Academic Computing Services in March. Prior to that time he had been Interim Director.

Technology Workshop

- **Dr. Maurice Leatherbury**, Director of Academic Computing Services, organized a Teaching With Technology Workshop for UNT faculty members. It was held May 13-16, and was well received by all who attended. The following people helped make the workshop a success:
 - Dr. David Kesterson, Vice Provost/Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs
 - Dr. Barry Wagner, Center for Instructional Services
 - Cengiz Capan, Business Administration
 - Don Foshee, President, Texas Distance Education Association
 - **Jenny Jopling**, Academic Computing Services
 - Dr. Mark Mortenson, Technology and Cognition, College of Education
 - Mark Withers, Center for Instructional Services
 - Michelle Allen, Associate General Counsel
 - Sharon Almquist, Media Library
 - **Dr. Philip Baczewski**, Academic Computing Services
 - Dr. Terry Holcomb, Technology and Cognition, College of Education
 - Dr. Henrietta Shirk, English
 - Dr. Carl Swanson, Business Administration
 - **Doug Bateman**, Academic Computing Services

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